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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding for a [[rat]] human p-Hyde protein, comprising a nucleic acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. [[3]] 1.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is DNA or RNA.

8-9.(Cancelled)

10. (Previously Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is labeled with a detectable marker.

11. (Previously Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 10, wherein the detectable marker is a radioactive, colorimetric, luminescent, fluorescent marker, or gold label.

12. (Currently Amended) An oligonucleotide of at least 15 nucleotides capable of specifically hybridizing with a nucleic acid molecule encoding a mammalian p-Hyde protein, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No: [[3]] 1.

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13. (Previously Amended) The oligonucleotide of claim 12, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises DNA or RNA.

14. (Previously Amended) The oligonucleotide of claim 12, wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled with a detectable marker.

15. (Previously Amended) The oligonucleotide of claim 14, wherein said detectable marker is a radioactive, colorimetric, luminescent, fluorescent marker or gold label.

16. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence complementary to the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. [[3]] 1.

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Amended) A vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

19. (Previously Amended) The vector of claim 18, further comprising an regulatory element linked to the nucleic acid molecule.

20. (Previously Amended) The vector of claim 19, wherein the regulatory element comprises a bacterial, yeast, insect or mammalian promoter.

21. (Previously Amended) The vector of claim 20, wherein the vector is a plasmid, cosmid, yeast artificial chromosome (YAC), bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC), adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, retrovirus, P1 bacteriophage or eukaryotic viral DNA.

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22. (Original) The adenovirus vector of claim 21, wherein the adenovirus vector is a replication-deficient adenovirus type 5 expression vector.

23. (Previously Amended) The adenovirus vector of claim 22, wherein the adenovirus vector comprises an adenovirus genome wherein the p-Hyde gene is inserted within a deletion in the E1 and E3 region of the genome.

24. (Previously Amended) The vector of claim 19, wherein the regulatory element is a Rous Sarcoma virus promoter.

25. (Original) A host vector system for the production of a polypeptide which comprises the vector of claim 18 in a suitable host.

26. (Original) The host vector system of claim 25, wherein the suitable host is a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.

27. (Original) The host vector system of claim 26, wherein the eukaryotic cell is a yeast, insect, plant or mammalian cell.

28-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence shares at least 75% identity with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: [[3]]1.

55. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid sequence shares at least 85% identity with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: [[3]]1.

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56. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid sequence shares at least 95% identity with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: [[3]]1.

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Previously Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 7, wherein said DNA is cDNA or genomic DNA.

60. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 encoding an amino acid sequence comprising the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No: [[7]]2.

61. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding for a variant, analog or mutant of the [[Rat]] human p-Hyde protein.

62. (Previously Amended) The oligonucleotide of claim 12, wherein said oligonucleotide is in sense or antisense orientation.

63. (New) An oligonucleotide of at least 15 nucleotides capable of specifically hybridizing with a nucleic acid molecule encoding for a variant, analog or mutant of the human p-Hyde protein.